

Abraham Lincoln papers

From Edward Wallace to Abraham Lincoln¹, September 24, 1862

¹ Edward Wallace, the brother of William S. Wallace, was appointed the naval officer at the Philadelphia customs house in 1861.

Reading Sep 24/62

My dear Sir

Gov. Curtin has postponed the draft until, October 16th; & unless the order is countermanded, it will be attended with the most disastrous consequences. I deem it just as important that the Gen. Administration should be sustained at the polls, as that we should be successful on the battle field, & with so large a proportion of Republicans from home it is easy to foresee what the result will be on the second tuesday of October unless the draft is in the meantime, brought into operation & the difficulty thus obviated. The Locofocos understand this well, & have spared no pains to bring about the postponement.

As you desire the success of your Administration in the election of loyal men who will sustain you in Congress I beseech you to see to it, that the Govenor corrects this fatal mistake. We can do nothing in our district & I am sure we shall lose several others in consequence of the absence of so many Republicans from their homes. The draft would correct this evil, & make our triumph certain.

Hoping that you will reflect well upon the result of this proceeding,

I am, Very truly yours

Edwd. Wallace